

House Resolution 299

By: Representative Ehrhart of the 36th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing February 18, 2009, as "Boy Scout Day in Georgia" and inviting a designee from
2 each council to appear before the House of Representatives; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, scouting evolved during the early 1900's through the efforts of several men
4 dedicated to bettering youth who conceived a program of outdoor activities that developed
5 skills in young boys and gave them a sense of enjoyment, fellowship, and a code of conduct
6 for everyday living; and

7 WHEREAS, Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden-Powell, First Baron Baden-Powell, known as
8 the founder of the Scouting Movement, wrote *Scouting for Boys*, which sparked the
9 formation of Scout troops across the world such that by 1922, there were more than a million
10 Scouts in 32 countries, and by 1939, the number of Scouts was in excess of 3.3 million; and

11 WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts of America endeavors to develop American citizens who are
12 physically, mentally, and emotionally fit; have a high degree of self-reliance as evidenced
13 in such qualities as initiative, courage, and resourcefulness; have personal values based on
14 religious concepts; have the desire and skills to help others; understand the principles of the
15 American social, economic, and governmental systems; are knowledgeable about and take
16 pride in their American heritage and understand our nation's role in the world; have a keen
17 respect for the basic rights of all people; and are prepared to participate in and give
18 leadership to American society; and

19 WHEREAS, thousands of volunteer leaders across the United States, both men and women,
20 are involved in the Boy Scout program, serving in a variety of jobs, from unit leaders to
21 chairmen of troop committees and committee members, merit badge counselors, and
22 chartered organization representatives; and

23 WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts of America is the nation's foremost program of character
24 development and values based leadership training for youth, fostering the philosophy of duty

25 to God, country, and self and a commitment to others through a comprehensive program of
26 responsible fun, outdoor adventure, and service projects; and

27 WHEREAS, scouting has been an integral part of the lives of so many of our leaders and
28 men who have shaped America, such as George W. Bush, Dick Cheney, Sanford Bishop,
29 Sam Nunn, John Glenn, Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin, Jimmy Stewart, Jimmy Buffet, Henry
30 "Hank" Aaron, Bill Gates, Sr., Steven Spielberg, John Tesh, and James A. Lovell, Jr.; and

31 WHEREAS, the Georgia Boy Scout program is organized into 11 councils: Chehaw Council,
32 Georgia-Carolina Council, Chattahoochee Council, Flint River Council, Northeast Georgia
33 Council, Central Georgia Council, Northwest Georgia Council, Coastal Empire Council,
34 Alpha Area Council, Okefenokee Council, and Atlanta Area Council; and

35 WHEREAS, such a worthwhile program deserves respect, admiration, gratitude, and
36 commendation for the impact it has had and continues to have on the character of the youth
37 of this state and this nation.

38 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
39 the Boy Scouts of America are hereby commended for their many achievements and
40 contributions to the welfare of this state, and February 18, 2009, is hereby recognized as
41 "Boy Scout Day in Georgia."

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that designees from the Georgia Councils of the Boy Scouts
43 of America are invited to appear before the House of Representatives on a date and at a time
44 designated by the Speaker of the House for the purposes of being recognized by the House
45 and receiving an appropriate copy of this resolution.